

## SUCCESS STORY Innovation Is In Our Nature

### JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL RECOVERY GROUP EMPOWERS STUDENTS TO STAY CLEAN

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#### **How did Commerce and GSSAC help solve the problem?**

Community Mobilization (CM) funds have been imperative the last two years in sustaining the Jackson High School Recovery Group in Snohomish County. The funds from CM have provided helpful tools for the group, such as workbooks and DVD's. The biggest difference is being able to reward the students in the group for their choice to stay clean and sober.

**Benefits:** Last year, the recovery group went on a field trip to the EMP. This was something they really looked forward too and had a great time. One of the students on the way home said to the chaperone, "This is the nicest thing anyone's ever done for me." They were so appreciative of the time and money invested so that they could have a new experience and reward for their hard work. This year, the recovery group wants to go to The Bodies Exhibition, which they plan to do next month. Some of these kids have spent so many years investing their time in using that they've forgotten how to have fun sober. The children value these field trips because they provide them with an opportunity to have a great time with other sober people their age.

The funds from CM also allow for occasional celebrations - either for sobriety birthdays, student birthdays or holidays. Many of these students have turbulent family lives in which these celebrations either don't happen or are not positive ones. They are always so encouraged to be remembered and celebrated in their group at school.

**Results:** This year a 10th grade student needed support to quit a substance abuse addiction. She joined the group and met a 12th grade student who had been clean and sober for 1-1/2 years, who she really looked up to. When she began to struggle and use a couple of months later, it was the senior student who talked to her about coming back to group, and started taking her to 12-step meetings.

The community is very proud of the recovery group at Jackson High School and is so grateful to Commerce Community Mobilization for supporting these students. Community Mobilization funds provide an opportunity to encourage the participants to make healthy decisions and show them that they are important, their hard work is acknowledged, and they are worth it!!



**Department of Commerce**  
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